

**Naval Ophthalmic Support and Training Activity EMS/P2 Program  
DEQ E2 Annual Status Report  
July 15, 2003**

**A. Program Status**

NOSTRA has been in full compliance with all regulatory requirements. Hampton Roads Sanitation District inspected the Command in June 2003 and no violations were noted. The Command has developed an environmental training program in which employees receive an environmental briefing when initially reporting to the Command. Also, environmental training is included in the Command All-Hands training sessions. The Command's environmental program has been publicized using our web site. Details of the status of each program are discussed in this report.

**B. Hazardous Material Control**

The Command continues to generate NO hazardous waste from its production processes in the annual production of nearly 450,000 pairs of prescription eyewear and has sought to implement non-hazardous materials into our operations.

NOSTRA has implemented procurement controls to conduct safety and environmental reviews of all chemicals prior to being ordered. NO chemicals are ordered without a safety and environmental review of the product. Emphasis is placed on the review so that no chemical is ordered that will create hazardous waste or have adverse safety considerations. The Command's Authorized Chemical Use List and MSDS references have been reviewed and updated when necessary. All personnel receive Hazard Communication Training to understand chemical hazards in the workplace.

The Waste Management Department has doubled its staffing in order to work directly on pollution prevention equipment that recycles process water and the collection of paper and cardboard for recycling. Staff training is provided so that personnel have the skills necessary to carry out their environmental duties.

An environmental policy letter signed was signed by the Commanding Officer. This policy is provided to all staff members. The policy discusses the importance of pollution prevention and how P2 will be incorporated into Command operations. The environmental policy stresses continual improvement in environmental programs and pollution prevention.

Enclosure (1)

**C. Use of Energy**

The Command is working with the Public Works Department, Norfolk, on developing a solar lighting project to reduce the electrical demand in the building. This project would replace 400 four-tub electrical fixtures. The Command publishes energy conservation information to the staff in the NOSTRA Plan of the Week.

**D. Storm Water** - NOSTRA does not have any storm water run-off issues. Compliance with this regulation is monitored by the Naval Weapons Station, Yorktown, Environmental Office.

**E. Solid Waste** - The Command has an active recycling program that recycles an estimated 52 tons of paper and cardboard annually. Aluminum cans and ophthalmic tools are also being recycled. It is estimated that 5 tons of metal is sold for recycling purposes annually.

**F. Non Regulated Waste** - A waste water evaporator system has been installed to process over 3000 gallons of non-hazardous waste annually. This has resulted in a \$25K dollar savings to the Command and a significant waste reduction.

**G. Coolant Recycling** - The Command has installed two additional self-cleaning centrifuge systems in our ophthalmic lens cutting process. This system cleans, chills (to remove heat) and recycles 60 gallons of non-hazardous coolant for up to two months without having to change out the coolant. These systems cost the Command over \$180K to install. Without these centrifuges being installed, an estimated 100,000 gallons would be used in this process.

**H. Environmental Training** - The Command Environmental Manager completed the two-week Navy Advance Environmental Management Course. The course included development of an Environmental Management System.

**I. Environmental Goals 2004**

- a. Develop an Environmental Management Plan
- b. Revise and conduct environmental training for both management and staff
- c. Request a 3<sup>rd</sup> party audit by the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery Environmental Office
- d. Install a process water recycling system that would recycle 150,000 gallons of process water annually, provided our funding request is approved
- e. Install solar lighting in 50% of production areas, if funding for the project becomes available